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Beck Hudson ..... News Editor

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Oakville

Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Drinkard, Mark, Scott and Jeff have returned home after spending the Christmas holidays with Mrs. Drinkard's parents in Terre Haute, Ind. Mrs. Drinkard's sister and family of California, joined the family also.

Visiting in the home of Mrs. Maggie Gardner and Ethel during the week end were Mr. and Mrs. Allen Gardner of Lynchburg, and Mr. and Mrs. Larkin Davidson.

Dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Martin on Wednesday were Mr. and Mrs. Alonza Martin and Mrs. Martin's granddaughters, Gay Crawford and Abby Reedy. Mrs. Doyle Martin and son, Bennie, called in the afternoon.

Monday afternoon visitors in the home of Mrs. Maggie Gardner and Ethel were Mrs. Weta Morris of Farmville, Mrs. Eva Marsha and Mr. and Mrs. Russell Covington and Jane Russell.

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Martin returned home Saturday after spending several days in Bluefield, West Virginia as house guests of Mrs. Martin's brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Clapp. Mrs. Ruth Clapp returned home with them and is spending some time in the Martin home.

The United Methodist Women of Mt. Comfort will meet Thursday evening in the home of Mrs. Marshall Martin at 7:30.

Mrs. Garland Burcher visited Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Martin on Friday afternoon.

We are sorry to hear Mrs. Emily Akers is a patient in the hospital. Also Mr. Milton Hunter. We wish them both a speedy recovery.

Hollywood

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Wingfield and Miss Julia Wingfield visited Rev. and Mrs. W. H. Elder and family recently.

Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Webb were visitors Friday night of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Franklin and family. They visited Mrs. Mary Bagby Saturday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Wingfield, of Roanoke, spent a few days in Appomattox last week.

Rev. and Mrs. Otis Smith and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Coleman were dinner guests Monday of Mrs. W. T. Covington.

Mrs. Alfred Jamerson of Pamplin and Mrs. Garland Jennings of Richmond were visitors in the homes of Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Webb, Mr. Walker and Mrs. Mary Bagby Friday.

Mrs. J. L. Torrence, Mrs. W. T. Covington, Mrs. Otis Smith and Mrs. James Conner spent Friday with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hancock, of Richmond.

Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Webb and Miss Joyce Webb visited Mr. and Mrs. Gus Torrence and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Gilbert Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Jenkins of Maryland, visited his mother and sister, Mrs. Addie Jenkins and Mrs. Ber Abbitt last week at the Liberty House in Lynchburg. They also visited Mr. Jenkins' brother, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Jenkins, of Vera.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott Sheets visited the W. H. Wingfields Saturday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Webb were visitors Saturday night of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Watson.

Mrs. Mattie C. Franklin spent last week with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Sam McFall and family, of Lynchburg.

Among those who are having the flu and colds are Pam Franklin, Mrs. Mary Bagby, Mrs. W. H. Wingfield, Mrs. Thomas Woodall and Lisa, Mrs. W. T. Covington, William and April Watson.

Callers in the home of Mrs. Mary Bagby last week were Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Wingfield, Mrs. James Maxwell, Mrs. William Light and daughter, Michale, Mrs. Delorious Deaner and Dawn, Leslie Goin, Mrs. Thomas Woodall, W. H. Wingfields and Bill Watsons.

STONEWALL

"Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." Matt. 5:48

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Dewey and Jennifer, of Richmond, were supper guests Sunday of his sister, Mrs. Elsie Krantz.

Mrs. Helen Stratton visited her brother, Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Scruggs, Sunday.

Rev. D E. Moore had a grand baptizing at Hebron Sunday. There were seven baptized. We hope they will be a blessing to us and we will richly bless each one.

Mr. Edward Davidson is home for the new year.

Mr. and Mrs. I. B. Wheeler and Richard Jones were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Wheeler and Mrs. Mary Smith Sunday. It was a grand birthday dinner for Irby and Ben.

Mrs. Susie Krantz had as her dinner guests her mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Taylor of Lynchburg. They came to Hebron to see Connie Krantz be baptized.

Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Barrell of Culpeper, Va., spent the week end with Mr. Osborne and Crawford Davidson.

Mrs. Becky Shanks spent the week end with her daughter at Evergreen.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Robertson and Mrs. David Smith visited Mrs. Minnie Burnette last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Gallispie, Connie Karen, spent a few days in Greensville, S.C. and Mrs. Hazel Gallespie came home with them Saturday.

Mr. Richard Jones spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. I. B. Wheeler, Mrs. H. B. Jones came for him Sunday night.

Now school has started, let's study hard and make every day count for each one.

Mrs. Connie Garrett took her mother, Mrs. John Ewers to Richmond Tuesday to a doctor about her eye.

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The Pastor Speaks

God Has Paid For You

"Have you forgotten that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you, and is God's gift to you, and that you are not the owner of your own body? You have been bought, and at what a price! Therefore being glory to God in your body." (I Cor. 6:19-20 Phillips)

Paul is reminding the believers at the church in Corinth that the Holy Spirit had moved in "lock, stock, and barrel" into their lives at their conversion experience. Lest they forget, he also reminds them that now they do not own their bodies anymore. Why? Because they have been bought (redeemed) by God and at what a price!

God knew that the pension fund man was to receive for a lifetime of sinning was spiritual death, eternal separation from God, Hell! "For the wages of sin is death . . ." (Romans 6:23a) What a paycheck to receive at the end of one's life! This kind of pay-day was conceived in the heart and mind of Satan when he tempted Eve in the Garden of Eden. But, God would not be outdone. He decided that if it cost Him everything He had, He would defeat Satan and redeem His highest creation, man! The only thing left to do to save man from a horrible eternity was for God Himself to personally come and receive the wages of sin on behalf of man. So God came to man as a man, Jesus Christ, the only Begotten Son of God. Jesus Christ took all the sin of the human race upon His body and received the wages of sin - the death peanalty. The price was paid once and for all, for man's freedom, so that those "who believe in Him might not perish but have everlasting life."

Clarence H. Davis, Pastor
New Hope Baptist Church
Appomattox, Va.

The Sunday School Lesson

COMMENTS BY HERBERT C. BRADSHAW

Lesson For January 11, 1976

Topic: The Way of the Kingdom

Scripture: Matthew 6:19 - 7:29

Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well. Matthew 6:33

In the Sermon on the Mount, the believer (or the disciple, as he may also be called) is portrayed in his role as a citizen of the kingdom of God. In it Jesus tells what the relationship of the believer to the law of Israel and what his attitude toward it should be. He also tells what the attitude of the believer should be to the world and material concerns.

Jesus gave striking and challenging interpretations of what should be the believers attitudes toward both the law and the world. Even today, after 1900 years of reading and studying the Sermon on the Mount, we are still challenged by Jesus' interpretations and can appreciate and understand why "the crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes." The scribes would have said, "You have heard that it was said, so do as you have been told." Jesus instead said, " You have heard that it was said, so do as you have heard that it was said, but I say to you," and propounded the doctrine of giving God the priority in all affairs and the practice of love as basic to observing the spirit of law which underlies obeying its letter.

As He spoke of what should be the believer's attitude toward the world and material affairs, Jesus taught that man should give God the priority. Jesus knew the anxiety people have for meeting the material needs of this life. He had seen that since His childhood in Nazareth. He observed it as He went about Galilee and Judea. Today we see it all around us. The worried faces we see on the streets and in the stores, the anxieties we hear people express testify that worry and anxiety about everyday needs are perennial.

Jesus' teaching concerning anxiety stresses trust in God. It should not be interpreted as meaning that people should stop work and expect God to feed and clothe and house them. This attitude is neither trust nor faith, but is rather tempting or testing God. To test God is to sin, for Jesus quoted with approval the Scriptural precept, "You shall not tempt the Lord your God." What Jesus means is that man should make his best effort to meet his needs, trust God to make his efforts successful, and not worry. Work and not worry summarized the Scriptural teachings about man's responsibility and his dependence upon God. The source is pagan, but there is profound spiritual truth in the line from Pope's translation of Homer's Iliad: "Tis man's to fight, 'tis heaven's to give success."

Material possessions, in which we are all too much inclined to trust for security, are so fleeting. Some, such as fine fabrics and rugs and clothes which constituted a form of wealth in Jesus' time, are prey for moths. Others as metal tools and implements, rust. Even the fine metals, as gold and silver may be stolen by thieves. No material possession offers certain security. On the other hand, treasures laid up in heaven in unselfish service to God and one's fellows are permanent. An active concern for God and His kingdom, including the well-being of humanity, shows that God is the focus of the individual's interests and concerns--where his heart is.

Earlier, in giving the outline of a model prayer, Jesus told believers to ask God to give bread for the day. This petition is not to free man from work, but to acknowledge God as the source of life and all that sustains it. In introducing his prayer and in counseling His hearers, Jesus reminded His audience that God knows our needs. He provided food for the birds, He clothes wild flowers in beauty surpassing the glory of the richest of earthly kings. This should be ample evidence of His concern for people and the confidence that He will provide for human needs.

Jesus emphasized that a person's loyalty cannot be divided. If he undertakes to serve two masters, he will end up giving one the priority over the other. Man must make the choice between giving God the priority or giving it to mammon, which specifically means money or property, but may be taken here as representative of all worldly concerns, as wealth, power, prestige, pleasure. To give God the priority is the basic requirement for citizenship in His kingdom.

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Jordan News

All present enjoyed the program of music present on last Sunday night by different groups. The program was sponsored by the Harps of Zion for the benefit of the building fund.

The Senior Choir will practice on Friday night at 7:30 p.m.

We extend to the family of Mrs. Thelma Robinson our deepest sympathy. We pray that God be with you in your hour of sorrow.

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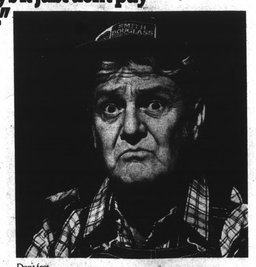
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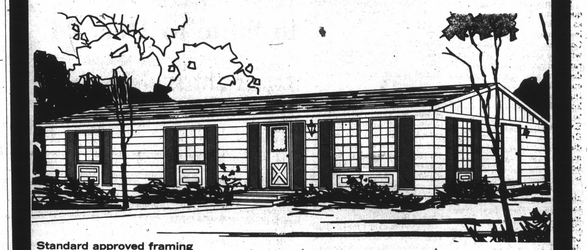
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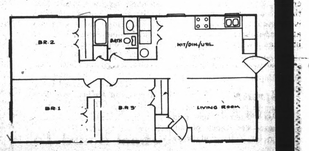

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Capitol Comments

By Dan Daniel

Washington...In less than two weeks, Congress will reconvene for the Second Session of the 94th Congress. The list of unfinished buiness is formidable and when you add to that which must be completed the additional measures which can be anticipated, it will be a busy year by anybody's standards.

Two measures which can be expected to make a return appearance are Land Use Planning and VOTER Registration. Neither is needed, and both have been rejected, but their supporters will insist on trying again.

It can also be expected that revision will be made in the Lobbying Act. That such is needed cannot be denied. According to reports filed with the House, less moeny was spent on lobbying activities in the past year than was spent in 1949. And when Ralph Nader's group and the National Association of Manufacturers can study the Act and decide without challenge that it does not cover them, it must be conceded that the loopholes are very large, indeed. Unfortunately, the bill is being tailored by Common Cause, and it is being designed in such a manner that this group virtually alone would be exempt from coverage. Even religious and church-related groups would be considered lobbyists. Unless there is amendmant before the bill reaches final passage, a strict application of the standards incorporated would prohibit many of you from writing to me and to our Senators to express opinions on legislation. There is a strong possibility that the bill as it now stands is unconstitutional, but you can be very sure that the point will be tested.

Also due for a return engagement is the Consumer Protection Act. This bill passed by a very slim margin, and has yet to go to Conference. At a time when Members of Congress at all stages of the philosophical spectrum are calling for a reduction in federal intervention in the affairs of the individual, it is difficult to understand how this bill passed either house in the firs place.

Another piece of legislation which has received much attention in the media may surface this year - and then again, it may not. The bill is identified in the House as H.R. 3907, in the Senate as S. 1, and the title sounds good - The Criminal Justice Reform Act. Unfortunately, there are many provisions incorporated which may be well-motivated, but which can create as many problems as they solve. And in this case, there are also questions of constitutionality.

In this Newsletter the question has twice been raised as to whether legislation which is - or may be - passed by the Congress is in conformance with the Constitution. We may rant and rave about some of the decisions whih are rendered by our highest court from time to time, but it is comforting to know that we have this group to assess the actions of the Executive and Legislative Branches, and that final disposition of our laws are not necessarily (although they have been at times) dictated by what is expedient.

Among the other predictables is a mammoth battle over tax reform and federal spending. Congress - and your Congressman - wants very badly to see the recently devised Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act function as it was designed. Plainly, our prior methods did not work, but the strengths of this new act are beginning to be eroded. As an example, once the Second Budget Resolution is adopted in each fiscal year, any spending bill which breaches the spending ceiling, and any tax cut which penetrates the revenue floor can be challenged by one member on a point of order. Just before the House adjourned, however, we learned that a new interpretation has been applied by the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget, and the ceiling applies only to budget aggregates, and not to category components. Thus NO appropriation, standing on its own, would violate the budget, and those who so choose can ignore the ceiling quite handily.

There will also be, in the coming year, many matters which derive from actions in the Executive Branch and to which the Congress will - or may not - react. The matter of transfer of ownership of the Panama Canal still remains alive. If presently inactive. Hopefully, the introduction of Cuban troops in Angola will cool the zeal of those who at an earlier date pushed for United States recognition.

Likewise, it would take a heap of looking to find anyone who supports the present approach to detente with the Soviet Union. Nor is there much enthusiasm around for SALT agreements, in the absence of verification capability, or the direction of negotiations on a mutual and balanced force reduction in Europe. As the 21st Century approaches, our Secretary of State appears hung up on 18th Century diplomatic methods. They are not working too well.

Altogether, it shapes up as a busy year, and I trust we can continue to count on the people of the Fifth District to keep us informed on personal reactions to all that will be going on.

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